

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The General Assembly takes pride in recognizing
3 the accomplishments and contributions of Illinois officials
4 and citizens; and

5 WHEREAS, The General Assembly, as an august body,
6 exercises discerning judgement in resolutions to cite the
7 noted achievements of a select few individuals, especially
8 when bestowing one of the highest methods of recognition by
9 the State; and

10 WHEREAS, In recognition of the lasting legacies and many
11 sacrifices that Justice Michael Bilandic and Justice Benjamin
12 Miller have made for the citizenry of the State of Illinois,
13 the General Assembly would like to recognize these
14 individuals with the rare honor of naming respective public
15 buildings after these former State officials; and

16 WHEREAS, Justice Michael A. Bilandic served as a first
17 lieutenant in the Marine Corps during World War II in the
18 Pacific theater, was a former Master in Chancery of the
19 Circuit Court of Cook County and a Special Assistant Attorney
20 General, became a Chicago Alderman in 1969, became Mayor of
21 the City of Chicago in 1976, was elected to Illinois' First
22 District Appellate Court in 1984 and to a 10-year term on the
23 Illinois Supreme Court in 1990, and was selected by his
24 fellow justices to a 3-year term as Chief Justice of the
25 Illinois Supreme Court; and

26 WHEREAS, Justice Bilandic performed extraordinarily in
27 all 3 executive, legislative, and judicial roles in his
28 career of public service; and he tapped his incredible talent
29 and skill of statesmanship to further the interests of the
30 citizens of the State of Illinois; and he was an active and
31 energetic civic leader; and

1 WHEREAS, Justice Benjamin K. Miller began serving as
2 Circuit Court Judge in Illinois for the 7th Judicial Circuit
3 in 1976, was the Presiding Judge in that Circuit's criminal
4 felony division, and was in 1981 the Chief Judge of the 7th
5 Judicial Circuit; and he was elected in 1982 to the Fourth
6 District Appellate Court and elected to the Illinois Supreme
7 Court in 1984, and was Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme
8 Court from 1991 to 1994; and

9 WHEREAS, Justice Miller served the judicial branch wisely
10 at all 3 levels of the Illinois court system, wrote numerous
11 landmark judicial opinions, made noble contributions to
12 jurisprudence, and served his profession, the citizens, and
13 the State of Illinois with integrity and distinction; and

14 WHEREAS, These individuals have made vital contributions
15 of service and merit to the State of Illinois and to the
16 State's citizens and deserve to have their achievements noted
17 and remembered by current and future generations, as they are
18 honored by the General Assembly today; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
21 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we rename the State of
22 Illinois Building at 160 North La Salle Street in Chicago in
23 honor of Justice Michael Bilandic; and in implementing this
24 honor, we designate that State building as the Justice
25 Michael Bilandic State of Illinois Building; and be it
26 further

27 RESOLVED, That we rename the 4th District Appellate Court
28 Building at 201 West Monroe Street in Springfield in honor of
29 Justice Benjamin Miller; and in implementing this honor, we
30 designate that court building as the Justice Benjamin Miller
31 4th District Appellate Court Building; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this preamble and

1 resolution be presented to Justice Benjamin Miller and to the
2 family of Justice Michael Bilandic; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this preamble and
4 resolution be presented to the Director of Central Management
5 Services, the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court,
6 and other operating authorities for the cited buildings.